

App. F. IX-4

Previous References.

(1941-2
war)

File No. 19-41
Serial Nos. 1-2.

Later References.

(8)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Two only

Part B for Septemr 1941

SUBJECT.

War & the internal security:
(circulars from the Chancellors of the Chamber
of Princes.)

Annex -

Confidential

511

Letter No. C.759-Encls. dated the 15th August 1941 from the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, to the Ch. Secretary to the Government.

W. 4-41-1.

I am desired to forward herewith for favour of disposal the following circulars received from the office of His Highness the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes.-

1. Circular No.64/VII-181 dated 5th July 1941 regarding the War Risk (Goods) Insurance Ordinance, 1940.
2. Circular No.66/VII-162, dated the 7th July 1941, re. the War and Internal Security.
3. Circular No.70, dated the 10th July 1941, re. Extra-territorial rights of the Government of India with respect to European and American subjects in Indian States and over Government servants.

- - -

Submitted.

(Intd.) B.T.K.
16.8.41.

DEWAN)

Fin. & Rev.Minister) (Intd.) N. M.
and
Law Minister.) 17.8.41.

X

X

X

" Please send the A.R.P. pamphlet to I.G.P. for A.R.P. Special Officer's reference and keep the Internal Security letter in connected file. "

(Intd.) A. V. R.

31. 8. 41.

reaction)

(PS)
2/9)

Subd with a letter to the I.G.P. forwarding the note for Spt officers

Is a duplicate ~~copy~~ set of these available for refce here?

(Please bring up)

Cpb
2/9/41

on

Cpb

Issued 6/9/41 to 3rd Spt. A. 16. 4/9/41

CONFIDENTIAL

Circular No. 66/VII-162.

COUNCIL HOUSE,
NEW DELHI.
7th July, 1941.

The War and Internal Security.

Your Highness,

The Explanatory Memorandum (Appended hereto), placed by the Secretariat before the meetings of the Committee of Ministers held in Bombay on the 25th and 26th June, 1941 gives the up-to-date position in the above subject.

2. The Committee of Ministers unanimously resolved as follows :—

- (i) Resolved that the Note prepared by the Secretariat giving information about arrangements for Air Raid Precautions made in the various Provinces may be circulated to the States so that, where needed, it may assist such States as may desire to review or plan their A. R. P. arrangements.
- (ii) Resolved further that His Highness the Chancellor be requested to address the Crown Department that the States so desiring may be afforded facilities and financial assistance for A. R. P. arrangements on the same basis as has been applied to the Provinces.

3. In accordance with the aforesaid resolution, I enclose herewith a copy of the Note on Air Raid Precautions prepared by the Chancellor's Secretariat. This Note as stated in the footnote on page 1, is based on action taken in the various Provinces and is designed to assist such States as may desire to review or plan their A. R. P. arrangements. It is understood that the arrangements adopted in the Provinces, and cited in the Note, are subject to revision by the individual States in the light of their local conditions and circumstances.

4. I find that the periodical intimation received from various States with regard to their individual war efforts does not, in many cases, include contributions indirectly made by the States towards war effort. These indirect contributions would cover items such as increased expenditure on States Forces and Security Services due to war situation, setting up of aerodromes and arrangements for the training of pilots, expenditure on A. R. P., special facilities and financial assistance (including remission in taxes and land revenue) extended in many cases to the families of serving soldiers, additional cost of pensions and provident fund contributions and similar other indirect expenditure. I have suggested these items only by way of illustration, so that where these and other similar indirect contributions have not already been taken into account in supplying data of the War effort of individual States, this may be done in future.

5. The war, as Your Highness is aware, has entered a most critical phase. This acute stage, I am sure, has further intensified the solemn determination of the Indian States, big and small, to make every possible contribution towards the achievement of final and glorious Victory for their King and country.

Trusting this finds Your Highness in the enjoyment of excellent health,

Yours sincerely,
DIGVIJAYSINHJI,
Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar,
Chancellor, Chamber of Princes.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

The War and internal security.

The meeting of the Committee of Ministers held on the 2nd December 1940, considered the war situation and resolved as follows:—

- (a) *i.* The question of individual War contributions should be left to individual States and Rulers to determine.
- ii.* The list, given in para 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum, of the steps taken towards War effort in the different Provinces should be circulated to the States for their information and such action as they may individually like to take.
- (b) As regards special measures for internal security such as Civic Guards, if, beyond the Army and the Police force or any additions that might be made to them, the further agency of Civic Guards was required by any State, the question should be left to individual States to decide what form the Civic Guards should take, as it is obvious that conditions differ in different States;
- (c) as regards the securing of a due share and special facilities for the subjects of Indian States in Emergency Commissions, armed forces in British India and military training during the War, there is no need for fixation of any such share or for claiming special facilities, as experience so far proved that a large number of Indian States subjects was being recruited and was being given facilities provided the necessary qualifications and conditions were forthcoming ;
- (d) as regards the expansion of armed forces of the States, the question does not admit of any hard and fast rule and should be left to individual States to determine ;
- (e) as regards the association of States with the War effort and Defence arrangements at the Centre, since there is little likelihood of the War Advisory Council being formed in the near future, some expert body representing the States on a basis suited to the different States should be appointed to serve as liaison between the States as a whole and the Departments at the Centre connected with Defence and Supply ;
- (f) as regards supply of arms and ammunition, the attention of the Crown Representative should be invited to the need for providing adequate supplies to the States in accordance with the legitimate requirements of each, preference to be given to States affording military assistance. In view of the difficulty of the Government of India itself in the matter, the advisability of regional factories in Indian States for manufacture of arms and ammunition should be pressed.

2. The aforesaid recommendations of the Ministers Committee were duly endorsed by the Standing Committee of Princes and were brought to the notice of the various States. Moreover, following specification was taken in relation to the various recommendations cited in para (1) above :—

- Re. (a) (ii) : A digest of the important steps taken towards War effort in different Provinces as prepared by the Secretariat was circulated to the States.
- Re. (c) : While it was approved that there was no need at present for fixation of any specific share for the subjects of the Indian States in emergency commissions etc., the Crown Department was addressed and has agreed to maintain separate figures of candidates from British India and Indian States respectively recruited to the various defence services.

- Re. (e) : The Chamber of Princes unanimously adopted a Resolution at its last Session recommending that the proposal of the War Advisory Council be revived with representatives from the Governments of the States and the Provinces.
- Re. (f) : His Highness the Chancellor addressed His Excellency the Crown Representative and also urged these important matters at the meeting of the Standing Committee of Princes. Sympathetic reply was received that the matters urged were receiving active consideration.

3. The Indian States have continued their best traditions of generous contributions towards various avenues of war effort. Large sections of their States' Forces have been operating in active service in the war. Vast quantities of war material and equipment have been liberally contributed by the States. Moreover, the contributions of the Indian States towards the War Funds, up to the end of February 1941, amount to the following figures :—

(a) Contributions to the War Fund

Non-recurring	..	..	Rs. 1,91,71,000
Recurring	: ..	..	„ 42,01,000

(b) Investment in the War Loans.

Interest-free War Loans	..	..	„ 1,14,00,000
3% Defence Bonds	..	..	„ 75,00,000

In this connection attention may be invited to the fact that the total contributions of the Indian States in the Great War 1914-18 amounted to cash contributions £ 5,000 000/- and war loans Rs. 8,09,04,800. Moreover, while British India has contributed Rs. 1,82,00,000 towards the Defence Savings Certificates, the Indian States have not availed of this form of investments, though their contributions in other spheres have been very generous.

4. With regard to internal security, the various suggestions made by the Committee of Ministers at its earlier meetings and by the States' Military Officers Committee as well as by other friends of the States were summarised and circulated to the States by His Highness the Chancellor in the Circular No. 48 dated 3rd July 1940. For facility of reference and in view of the importance of this question at this juncture a copy of this circular is appended (Appendix A), particular attention is invited to the various suggestions made in para 4 of the circular.

APPENDIX A

Personal
Secret
Immediate

Circular No. 48.

THE PALACE,
J A M N A G A R ,
(Kathiawad),

3rd July, 1940.

Re. War effort and Internal Security.

Your Highness,

The British Empire, as you are aware, is involved today in a terrific struggle, in which we all sink or swim together. At this critical juncture our obligations to the Crown, to our dynasties, to our subjects, to India, and to the ordered progress of humanity call for vital effort; and the Indian Princes—one and all—have already made their choice, and declared their solemn determination to contribute towards the successful prosecution of the war to the fullest extent possible within their resources and circumstances. Moreover, they have implemented this declaration with substantial offers and assistance in men, money and materials which, I feel confident, will continue in future, even greater than in the past, in accordance with our magnificent traditions.

2. Time, however, is moving fast—in fact dangerously fast. It demands that we join our heads together, take stock of the situation within our States, and do whatever may still be needed to accelerate and complete our individual and collective war efforts. There is no need to be panicky, nor, on the other hand, should the real gravity of the situation be overlooked. The godless aggression of the enemy—backed with the initial advantage of secret mechanisation—has precipitated a serious crisis which literally stares at us to-day. It threatens to demolish the best for which the British Empire stands, to devastate ruthlessly the life and property of our peoples; and to desecrate the edifice which our great ancestors fought and lived for. We are called upon now to defend it all. None of us shall fail, I know; and in that confident belief let intention be translated into greater action, so that we may justify those glorious traditions of chivalry and organization which our ancestors have left us as a sacred heritage.

3. Various enquiries have been addressed to me as to what specific measures should be adopted by the individual Rulers at this juncture. On this urgent question, I invited the advice of the Committee of Ministers and of the States Military Officers' Committee which met recently in Bombay. Their recommendations will shortly reach Your Highness; in view, however, of the urgency and importance of the matter, I am taking the liberty of addressing this personal letter in the light of the advice tendered by these committees and other friends, so that it may be of assistance to Your Highness in deciding upon any action which may still be needed, and which you may deem fit to take, in your State.

4. The various important suggestions, made by the Committees referred to in the last para and by other friends, by which we could at this juncture help the Government, our subjects and our dynasties, deserve most earnest consideration. For facility of reference they are reproduced summarised below :—

- (a) It is vital for the states to intensify their war efforts and to strengthen measures for internal security to the fullest extent possible within the circumstances and resources of each state.
- (b) The first item of the War effort of the States should be to so organise their internal security that, as far as possible, during the war, they may have to make no demands on the British Government to protect them against internal commotion.
- (c) All States, big and small, which have not already done so should carefully prepare their internal security schemes to meet all possible contingencies. In this matter, the advice of local political officers and military advisers, which I understand will be available to the States, may where needed be

fully utilised. The internal security schemes may include the consideration of, and provision for, suitable air-raid precautions, ample police reserves, transport facilities, protection of key and strategic points and communications including telephones, wireless and telegraphs. In this connection, as recommended by the States Military Officers' Committee, the small States may also consider the feasibility, purely as a war emergency measure, of taking suitable voluntary co-operative action with regard to the aforesaid items of internal security, wherever necessary and on such terms as may be agreed.

- (d) The need for Auxiliary Army and Police Force, to the fullest extent possible, cannot be over-emphasised. In order to be useful, however, they must be recruited from the best available and most dependable sections of the people, and should be properly trained, equipped, armed and officered. In this connection I am taking immediate steps to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Crown Representative, the strong and general feeling in the States with regard to the supply of arms and equipment for their war emergency units and internal security schemes. I confidently hope that in these matters the States will receive the fullest possible assistance and support to which they are entitled and that they can be depended upon, and will make necessary arrangements, to ensure that the arms in their possession remain in safe custody and in safe hands.
- (e) Suitable ex-soldiers or military pensioners where available might be organised for garrison duty, and the services of retinues of Jagirdars, nobles and Sardars, where considered advisable, may be suitably utilised.
- (f) I am competently advised that in view of the varied circumstances of States, generally speaking, it would neither be helpful nor desirable at this stage to entrust important functions of internal security to hurriedly trained irregular formations of the civil population. Volunteers from the public, however, may, where local conditions warrant, be enlisted as Civic Guards in small manageable formations for each ward or *mohalla* in the towns and in the villages. These formations could do solid work in encouraging inter-communal harmony and by preventing communal strife. They could assist in the collection of funds, dissemination of accurate news, contradiction of false rumours, finding suitable recruits for the army and the police, and the co-ordination of other war efforts. Moreover, such a body could provide a dependable liaison with the local Police for any assistance that may be required from time to time for the maintenance of law and order; and they could also be trained where considered necessary in A. R. P. measures.
- (g) The best insurance against attempts at subversive movements from inside or outside the States, as pointed out by the Committee of Ministers, is good government and readiness to remove legitimate grievances of States subjects wherever they may exist. To this end, the administrations of the States may be sympathetically reviewed, where needed, in order that the maximum effort possible in the State may be ensured for the successful prosecution of the War and the maintenance of law and order in the State.
- (h) All possible economies may be made in the State Budget and civil lists of the Rulers, unless already done, and all avoidable expenditure may be eliminated or postponed during the continuance of the War. Moreover, the States should endeavour, as far as possible, to keep a fluid reserve, available to meet at least six months' expenditure, if need be, without any receipts from taxes or land revenue. Revised budgets should be framed

with all possible economies, in order to provide for additional expenditure required on Security services—including police and army reserves—within the reduced receipts due to effects of War.

- (i) Arrangements may be made, tactfully and without creating panic, to round off and check all *Badmashes*, to encourage the old community spirit of mutual help particularly in the rural areas, and to make store provision of all necessities of life for a period of six months or so to provide for the remote contingency of a temporary interruption of free transit and communications.
- (j) War Committees may be formed where they have not already been constituted with a view to co-ordinate War effort, in the local unit concerned. These Committees may be utilised, *inter alia*, as nucleus for the dissemination of accurate news and the contradiction of false rumours concerning the War.
- (k) The Indian Princes would, doubtless, continue their whole-hearted support, through generous contributions in men, money, and materials, for the successful prosecution of the War. In this connection, the need for liberal financial contributions, to the fullest possible extent, by the Princes, their Governments, and their subjects to the various War Purposes funds and to the War Loans is urgently indicated. The Indian Princes contributed over 8 crores of Rupees in cash during the last War in addition to generous contributions in men and materials. The call at this juncture is even more imminent. The States have already subscribed over 1 crore of Rupees, including about Rupees thirtysix lakhs recurring, towards the present War Purposes Funds, exclusive of War loans, they are making substantial contributions through maintaining States Forces units, and their subjects are indirectly contributing towards the various War emergency taxes. Nevertheless, I feel confident that true to their magnificent traditions, the Indian Princes will not be found wanting in any sacrifice or contribution which they can make towards the successful prosecution of the War.
- (l) Unless already done, and where so desired, the States may forthwith appoint special committees with instructions to report within a specified period to the Rulers concerned as to what has already been done, and what could still be done, with due regard to local conditions, in their States in the direction of the aforesaid suggestions.

5. Let it be clearly understood that the suggestions made above are not intended to commit the States, or to limit their activities with regard to their individual War efforts. They are offered merely as indications of what might usefully be done in the matter, and are designed to assist the Indian Princes and their Governments in deciding upon any action which may still be needed, and which they may deem fit to take, in the peculiar circumstances of their respective States.

6. Thus, all of us doing our duty to the King and Country, with faith in the mercy of the Providence and the righteousness of our cause we may confidently look forward, through the dark clouds of a bitter and dreary struggle, to the silver lining of a glorious ultimate victory !

Trusting Your Highness is in the enjoyment of excellent health.

Yours sincerely,
DIGVIJAYSINHJI,
MAHARAJA JAM SAHIB OF NAWANAGAR,
Chancellor, Chamber of Princes.

CONFIDENTIAL.

2nd September 1941.

No. 630/W
Enc 1 pamphlet.
W.19-41-2.

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

I am directed to forward herewith for the A.R.P. Special Officer's reference, a note on Air Raid Precautions received from the Secretary to His Highness the Chancellor, Chamber of Princes, New Delhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



For Chief Secretary to Government.